TITLE OF PROJECT: Mariana Yampolsky’s Mexican Art: Captured Moments in Latin America’s Socialist Landscape (Undergraduate project)

PROJECT INFORMATION
Dr. Dalia Wassner, director of a new HBI initiative, the Project in Latin American Jewish & Gender Studies, is working on a project investigating the distinct Mexican cultural milieu to which the artist Mariana Yampolsky contributed in Mexico City, and to examine the broader transnational American Jewish dynamics that contributed to the nationalistic art scene in mid-20th century Mexico.

A Jewish-American daughter of Russian and German immigrants, Yampolsky moved from Chicago to Mexico at the age of 20. There she joined the Taller de Gráfica Popular in Mexico City, founded in 1938 as an anti-fascist cooperative of painters and dedicated to the ongoing relationship between art and social and political ideas. Contributing to the post-revolutionary culture of Mexico in the 1940s & 50s and beyond, Yampolsky became an energetic illustrator for newspapers, and an editor of art books for adults and educational school books for children. Dr. Wassner aims to understand the main areas of Yampolsky’s cultural contributions within the social, polictical and cultural context of her relationships and collaborations in Mexico.

Dr. Wassner is looking for a research assistant to help locate information that will help her to become familiar with all published materials on Yampolsky and other transnational Jewish artists, and assist her in accessing Yampolsky’s artistic works.

PROFILE OF APPROPRIATE CANDIDATE
- Background in the discipline of history; familiarity with Modern Mexican and/or Latin American History and Jewish socialist History a plus.
- Ability/Willingness to identify and gather materials at the library or through inter-library loan.
- Ability to read Spanish at a fluent level.
- Strong writing skills
- Demonstrated initiative
- Strong organizational skills